PATENTCLAIMS

 Network security system for detecting security relevant irregularities in a network, comprising

data sources located on and/ or constituting the network, with

means for generating network-security relevant data;

an input module, with

an interface module, with

input handlers for various protocols to connect to the data sources;

at least one processing module, connected to said input module for access to said data sources, with

means for translating said network-security relevant data into quantitative variables; a supervisory system, with

means for presenting processed data to a security system operator; and

means for transferring said quantitative variables from the processing module to the supervisory system.

- Security system as in claim 1, characterized in, that said data sources comprise routers, firewalls, hosts, applications, switches, NIDS, HIDS or any combination thereof.
- 3. Security system as in any of claims 1 or 2, characterized in, that

the network-security relevant data consists of numerical values maintained via increment/decrement operations, rate calculations, pass-through of values or evaluation of mathematical expressions involving multiple values or any combination thereof, and /or

textual values maintained via template matching, text transformation, text translation, and composition of text from templates, text strings from incoming data and numerical values from incoming data or any combination thereof.

- Security system as in any of claims 1 or 3, characterized in, that said supervisory system comprises
 - means for displaying said variables to an system operator, and reaction facilities with means for initiating predefined countermeasures.
- Security system as in any of claims 1 to 4, characterized in, that
 the processing modules act on individual incoming data messages and batches of
 those messages.
- 6. Security system as in any of claims 1 to 5, characterized in, that
 the displaying means display the security status/health information as quantitative trend
 graphs with historical data storage and zoom in/out function.
- Security system as in any of claims 1 to 6, characterized in, that
 the displaying means display a schematical depiction of the network and device
 structure and topology.
- 8. Security system as in claims 7, characterized in, that
 the visual elements denote security status by means of coloring and/or numerical
 and/or textual annotations
- Security system as in any of claims 1 to 8, characterized in, that the system further comprises
 - storage means for maintaining temporary and persistent records of the results of the processing steps for later in-depth analysis.
- Automation system operator workstation in a network with an automation system,
 comprising
 - means for controlling the processes of the automation system over the network, said controlling means comprising a human machine interface with means for displaying information about the automation system to an automation system operator and means for entering commands for controlling the automation system,
 - said automation system operator workstation being connected to a security system as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein
 - the supervisory system is integrated into the automation system controlling means,

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said status and trend presenting means being included in the information displaying system of the human machine interface, and said countermeasures initiating means being integrated in the commands entering means.